

Application No.: 09/940,792 Amendment dated June 9, 2003 Reply to Office Action of March 14, 2003 Docket No.: M4065.0382/P382-A

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

(Currently amended) An integrated circuit substrate comprising at least one buried conductor pattern provided within a monocrystalline substrate and surrounded by semiconductor material such that at least a portion of a top surface of said buried conductor pattern is below a top surface of said substrate and at least a portion of a bottom surface of said buried conductor pattern is above a bottom surface of said substrate, said at least one buried conductor pattern having a spherical pattern and forming at least a part of an interconnect between devices, and a conductive path extending from said buried conductor pattern to said devices.

- 47. (Previously amended) The integrated circuit of claim 46, further comprising a second buried conductor pattern having a pipe-shaped pattern.
- 48. (Previously amended) The integrated circuit of claim 46, further comprising a second buried conductor pattern having a plate-shaped pattern.

Claims 49-50 (Cancelled).

- 51. (Currently amended) The integrated circuit of claim 50 46, wherein said conductive at least one buried conductor pattern is formed of a material is selected from the group consisting of copper, copper alloy, silver, silver alloy, gold, gold alloy, tungsten, tungsten alloy, aluminum and aluminum alloy.
- 52. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 46, wherein said monocrystalline substrate is a silicon substrate.
- 53. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 46, wherein said monocrystalline substrate is a germanium substrate.

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54. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 46, wherein said monocrystalline substrate is a silicon-on-insulator substrate.

- 55. (Original) The integrated circuit of claim 46, wherein said monocrystalline substrate is a silicon-on-nothing substrate.
- 56. (Currently amended) A buried conductor pattern within a substrate, comprising:

at least one empty-spaced pattern in said substrate formed by annealing said substrate containing at least one hole drilled therein, said empty-spaced pattern having one of a sphere-shaped, plate-shaped, or pipe-shaped configuration; and

a conductive material filling said empty space pattern such that at least a portion of a top surface of said conductive material is below a top surface of said substrate and at least a portion of a bottom surface of said conductive material is above a bottom surface of said substrate, said buried conductor pattern forming at least a part of an interconnect between devices.

Claim 57 (Cancelled).

- 58. (Original) The buried conductor pattern of claim 56, wherein said empty-spaced pattern has a pipe-shaped configuration.
- 59. (Original) The buried conductor pattern of claim 56, wherein said empty-spaced pattern has a plate-shaped configuration.
- 60. (Original) The buried conductor pattern of claim 56, wherein said empty-spaced pattern has a sphere-shaped configuration.
- 61. (Original) The buried conductor pattern of claim 56, wherein said substrate is a monocrystalline substrate.

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62.

62.) (Currently amended) A processor system comprising:

a processor; and

a circuit coupled to said processor, at least one of said circuit and processor comprising:

a conductive structure comprising a substrate having at least one empty space pattern formed by annealing said substrate having at least one hole drilled therein, said empty-spaced pattern having one of a sphere-shaped, plate-shaped, or pipe-shaped configuration; and

a conductive material filling said empty space pattern such that at least a portion of a top surface of said conductive material is below a top surface of said substrate and at least a portion of a bottom surface of said conductive material is above a bottom surface of said substrate, said conductive structure forming at least a part of an interconnect between devices.

- 63. (Currently amended) The processor based system of claim 62, wherein said empty-spaced pattern has a configuration selected from the group consisting of pipe-shaped configuration, sphere shaped configuration and plate shaped configuration.
- 64. (Original) The processor system of claim 62, wherein said empty-spaced pattern has a plate-shaped configuration.
- 65. (Original) The processor system of claim 62, wherein said empty-spaced pattern has a sphere-shaped configuration.
- 66. (Original) The processor system of claim 62, wherein said substrate is a monocrystalline substrate.
- 67. (Original) The processor system of claim 62, wherein said circuit is a memory circuit.

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- 68. (Original) The processor system of claim 62, wherein said circuit is a DRAM memory circuit.
- 69. (Original) The processor system of claim 62, wherein said circuit and said processor are integrated on same circuit.
- 70. (Original) The processor system of claim 62, wherein said processor comprises said conductive structure.
- 71. (Original) The processor system of claim 62, wherein said circuit comprises said conductive structure.
- 72. (Currently amended) An integrated circuit substrate comprising at least one buried conductor pattern provided within a monocrystalline substrate and surrounded by semiconductor material such that at least a portion of a top surface of said buried conductor pattern is below a top surface of said substrate and at least a portion of a bottom surface of said buried conductor pattern is above a bottom surface of said substrate, said at least one buried conductor pattern having a plate-shaped pattern and forming at least a part of an interconnect between devices, and a conductive path extending from said buried conductor pattern.
- 73. (Previously added) The integrated circuit of claim 72, further comprising a second buried conductor pattern having a pipe-shaped pattern.
- 74. (Previously added) The integrated circuit of claim 73, further comprising a third buried conductor pattern having a spherical pattern.
- 75. (Currently amended) An integrated circuit substrate comprising at least one buried conductor pattern provided within a monocrystalline substrate and surrounded by semiconductor material such that at least a portion of a top surface of said buried conductor pattern is below a top surface of said substrate and at least a portion of a bottom surface of said buried conductor pattern is above a bottom surface

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of said substrate, said at least one buried conductor pattern having a pipe-shaped pattern and forming at least a part of an interconnect between devices, and a conductive path extending from said buried conductor pattern.

76. (Currently amended) An integrated circuit substrate comprising at least two first and second buried conductor patterns provided within a monocrystalline substrate and surrounded by semiconductor material such that at least a portion of a top surface of each of said buried conductor patterns is below a top surface of said substrate and at least a portion of a bottom surface of each of said buried conductor patterns is above a bottom surface of said substrate, said first and second buried conductive patterns forming at least a part of first and second interconnects between devices, respectively, wherein a said first of said at least two buried conductor patterns pattern is located below a said second of said at least two buried conductor patterns pattern and relative to a said surface of said monocrystalline substrate, and a first conductive path extending from said first of said at least two buried conductor patterns pattern and a second conductive path extending from said first of said at least two buried conductor patterns pattern and a second conductive path extending from said second of said at least two buried conductor patterns pattern and a second conductor patterns pattern.

- 77. (Currently amended) The integrated circuit of claim 76, further comprising a third buried conductor pattern located below said at least two first and second buried conductor patterns and relative to a surface of said monocrystalline substrate and a third conductive path extending from said third buried conductor pattern.
- 78. (Currently amended) The integrated circuit of claim 77, wherein said at least one of said buried conductor patterns has a pipe-shaped pattern.
- 79. (Currently amended) The integrated circuit of claim 77, wherein said at least one of said buried conductor patterns has a plate-shaped pattern.

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80. (Currently amended) The integrated circuit of claim 77, wherein said at least one of said buried conductor patterns has a spherical pattern.

81. (Currently amended) The integrated circuit of claim 77, wherein said conductive buried conductor patterns are formed of a conductive material selected from the group consisting of copper, copper alloy, silver, silver alloy, gold, gold alloy, tungsten, tungsten alloy, aluminum and aluminum alloy.